



**FEMA**

# News Release

May 25, 2010  
KY-DR-1912—NR - 013  
FEMA NEWSDESK: 859-425-3544  
KYEM PIO Contact: 502-607-1611  
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## **CITIZENSHIP RESTRICTIONS APPLY TO SOME FEMA AID**

**LEXINGTON, KY** – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Individual Assistance program’s grant funds are restricted to people living legally in the U.S. However, parents may apply for Individual Assistance on behalf of a child who is a U.S. citizen or a qualified immigrant. Another adult household member may qualify for household assistance if that individual is a legal immigrant.

FEMA grant funds for disaster-related losses are available to eligible: 1) U.S. citizens; 2) non-citizen nationals; and 3) qualified immigrants living legally in the U.S. FEMA inspectors checking damage to homes and property will ask the applicant to sign a Declaration and Release form stating that he or she is a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or a qualified immigrant.

The qualified immigrant category includes:

- Lawful permanent residents (they possess a “green card”)
- Those with refugee or asylum status
- Immigration “parolees” (people admitted to the U.S. temporarily for humanitarian purposes even if they don’t yet technically qualify for legal immigrant status)
- Those with conditional entry
- Those who have petitioned for relief based on battery or extreme cruelty by a family member
- Cuban-Haitian entrants.

Eligibility for FEMA programs is determined at the time of registration. Those unsure of their immigration status should consult an immigration expert.

Non-profit and voluntary agencies like the American Red Cross and faith-based charities may also provide help to undocumented disaster survivors.

Additional information about this disaster is available at [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) and [www.kyem.ky.gov/currentdisasters](http://www.kyem.ky.gov/currentdisasters) .

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*Additional counties, and their residents, may be designated for federal disaster assistance at a later date if requested by the Commonwealth and warranted by the results of further damage assessments.*

*If you or someone you know suffered loss, or damage, from this latest disaster you are encouraged to document the damage, save any repair receipts and notify your local emergency director.*

*FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.*

*Disaster recovery assistance is available without regard to race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age, disability, English proficiency or economic status. If you or someone you know has been discriminated against, call FEMA toll-free at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362). For TTY call 1-800-462-7585.*

*FEMA's temporary housing assistance and grants for public transportation expenses, medical and dental expenses, and funeral and burial expenses do not require individuals to apply for an SBA loan. However, applicants who receive SBA loan applications must submit them to SBA loan officers to be eligible for assistance that covers personal property, vehicle repair or replacement, and moving and storage expenses.*